

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A junk message interface system that facilitates identifying junk messages comprising:
 - a processor for executing the following components:
 - a message receiving component that collects at least one incoming message;
 - a filtering component that accepts the incoming message communicated from the message receiving component and that determines whether a sender is known or trusted before scanning the message with a filter and determining a junk score for the incoming message, the junk score is computed to reflect a spam confidence level of the message, wherein the junk score is a value or fractional value between 0 and 1, and the spam confidence level corresponds to a probability that the message is spam or junk, wherein once the message has been scored, the message is bucketized based on the determined junk score and tagged with a junk rating which is added as a property on the message, and
 - wherein a user can override the junk score *via* a user-based action that affects the junk score of the message and future messages; and
 - a display component that renders the junk scores as an actionable property on a user interface to facilitate user management of incoming junk messages communicated from the filtering component.
2. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 1, further comprising a view management component that provides one or more ways the user can modify treatment of the junk messages.

3. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 2, the view management component comprises any one of the following ways to mitigate against inadvertently opening a junk message comprising:
 - sorting and/or grouping messages based at least in part on at least one of their respective junk scores and their respective junk ratings;
 - filtering out messages with at least one of a junk score or a junk rating that does not satisfy at least a first criterion;
 - setting one or more actions to take against the messages when at least one of the respective junk scores or junk ratings that do not satisfy at least a second criterion; and
 - visually altering displays of messages according to at least one of their respective junk scores or junk ratings.
4. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 3, the first criterion is configurably different from the second criterion.
5. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 3, at least one of the first and second criteria is determined according to user preferences.
6. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 3, visually altering the displays comprises color-coding, changing fonts, font sizes, backgrounds, adding or altering images, and/or adding or altering sounds associated with the respective messages based at least in part on their respective junk scores.
7. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 1, further comprising an analysis component that examines junk scores of the incoming messages and orders them based at least in part on a spam confidence level associated with the respective messages.
8. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 1, the display component is a user-interface that exposes a message's junk score to a user so that the user can organize its messages based in part on the respective junk scores.

9. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 1, the filtering component further determines whether a source of the message appears to be trusted based on at least one of the following: user's blocked senders list, safe-list, address book, and safe-mailing list.
10. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 1, further comprising a verification component that requests confirmation regarding user-initiated actions on rated messages.
11. (Original) The junk message interface system of claim 10, the verification component fails user requests to perform an action with respect to a junk message until the user requests are verified by the users.
12. (Currently Amended) The junk message interface system of claim 1, wherein the messages are bucketized based on the determined junk score ~~further comprising a bucketing component that bucketizes junk scores of messages~~ so that the effects of features are seen only in aggregate, thereby mitigating reverse engineering of the junk score.
13. (Currently Amended) A user interface that facilitates identifying junk messages comprising:
a processor operable to execute the following:
a junk rating field that can be acted upon by a user, the junk rating being determined at least in part upon by determining a junk score and at least in part upon an analysis of the junk score, the junk score is computed to reflect a spam confidence level of a message, wherein the junk score is a value or fractional value between 0 and 1, and the spam confidence level corresponds to a probability that the message is spam or junk.
14. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, messages can be sorted and/or grouped according to their respective junk ratings.

15. (Currently Amended) A method that facilitates identification of junk messages in a user's inbox comprising:

employing a processor to execute the identification of junk messages, comprising:

receiving a plurality of incoming messages;

determining whether a sender is known or trusted;

assigning a junk rating to the messages;

exposing at least the junk rating on a user interface;

calculating a junk score for substantially all incoming messages, the junk score is computed to reflect a spam confidence level of the message, wherein the junk score is a value or fractional value between 0 and 1, and the spam confidence level corresponds to a probability that the message is spam or junk; ~~and~~

bucketizing the message based on the calculated junk score;

tagging the message with a junk rating which is added as a property on the message; and

overriding the junk score *via* a user-based action that affects the junk score of the message and future messages.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the messages are bucketized based on the calculated junk score ~~further comprising bucketizing the junk scores~~ so that the effects of features are seen only in aggregate, thereby mitigating reverse engineering of the junk score.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising organizing junk messages based at least in part upon their junk rating.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising determining whether at least one of the junk score or the junk rating exceed a first threshold; and removing messages that exceed the first threshold to mitigate inadvertent access of them by the user.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, removing messages that exceed the first threshold before they are viewable on the user interface.
21. (Original) The method of claim 15, the junk rating is based at least in part on one of the following: junk score, one or more safe lists, one or more safe sender lists, user-based actions, and/or user-generated address book.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21, user-based actions comprises at least one of the following:
- unjunking a message by moving it from a junk state to a non-junk state resulting in an “unjunked” junk rating;
 - junking a message by moving it from a non-junk state to a junk state resulting in a “junked” junk rating; and
 - adding a sender to one or more safe lists to change the junk rating of the message to safe.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, the user-based actions affect the junk rating of the message and/or future messages received from a particular sender.
24. (Original) The method of claim 15, assigning a junk rating to messages commensurate with at least their respective junk scores.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, bucketizing the message based on the calculated junk score ~~assigning a junk rating~~ comprises:
- providing a plurality of buckets comprising at least the following categorized buckets: an unscanned bucket, a light bucket, a medium bucket, and a high bucket, the plurality of buckets respectively assigned to a range of junk score values;
 - dropping messages into respective buckets based at least in part on their calculated junk score such that the respective bucket determines the junk rating for the respective messages.
26. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising exposing respective junk scores for the messages.

27. (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates identification of junk messages in a user's inbox comprising:

a processor for executing the following:

means for receiving a plurality of incoming messages;

means for determining whether a sender is known or trusted;

means for calculating a junk score for substantially all incoming messages, the junk score is computed to reflect a spam confidence level of the message, wherein the junk score is a value or fractional value between 0 and 1, and the spam confidence level corresponds to a probability that the message is spam or junk;

means for assigning a junk rating to the messages commensurate with at least their respective junk scores;

means for exposing at least one of the junk rating and the junk score on a user interface;

~~and~~

means for bucketizing the message based on the calculated junk score;

means for tagging the message with a junk rating which is added as a property on the message; and

means for overriding the junk score *via* a user-based action that affects the junk score of the message and future messages.

28. (Currently Amended) A data packet adapted to be transmitted between two or more computer processes facilitating easier viewing and management of incoming messages, the data packet comprising: information associated with receiving a plurality of incoming messages; assigning a junk rating to the messages commensurate with at least their respective junk scores, wherein the junk scores are computed to reflect a spam confidence level of the message, and wherein the junk scores are values or fractional values between 0 and 1, and the spam confidence level corresponds to a probability that the message is spam or junk; and exposing at least one of the junk rating and the junk score on a user interface; and employing a processor to execute the viewing and management of incoming messages.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer storage media ~~readable medium~~ having stored thereon the system of claim 1.